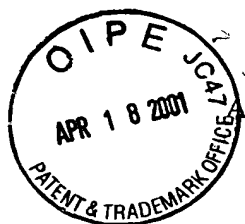


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efm
 Attorney's Docket No. 9040-7

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Thomas Boucino
 Serial No.: 09/591,349
 Filed: June 9, 2000
 For: COMMUNICATIONS CABLES WITH ISOLATORS

Date: April 16, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

PATENT

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4/24/01

TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This response is submitted in reply to the Official Action dated 15 March 2001 ("the Action"). In the Action, the Examiner identified as patentably distinct species each of the embodiments of the invention illustrated in Figures 2-8.

Applicant hereby provisionally elects, with traverse, the species illustrated in Figure 4. This embodiment is covered by pending Claims 5-8, 9-12, 13, 16, 17, 24, 25-28, 40, and 41. Applicant traverses this restriction requirement to the extent that the three species illustrated in Figures 3, 4 and 5 are all covered by Claims 5-8 and Claims 9-12. As such, Applicant notes that a complete search for Claims 5 and 9 would require searching for the subject matter of all of the embodiments of Figures 3, 4 and 5, and so would not present a serious burden to the Examiner as provided in MPEP 803. Applicant will identify the claims that cover the embodiments of Figures 3 and 5 should the Examiner so request.

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Applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Amendment (No Fee), Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on April 16, 2001.

Joyce Paoli

Date of Signature: April 16, 2001